

Page 40, line 18, change "message" to --messages--.

***In the Claims:***

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 1-53.

Please add new claims 54-137.

--54. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message intended for the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is (a) stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, (b) not included in the selective call signal regardless of the size of the message, and (c) not stored in the transmitting and receiving device at the time the selective call signal is received;

a processor for generating a request signal indicating an action and indicating the message; and

a transmitter for transmitting to the system the request signal, whereupon receiving the signal, the system performs the action on the message.

55. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 54, wherein the indicated action is one of deleting the message from the system, forwarding the message to a specified recipient, saving the message, and replying to the message.

56. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 54, further comprising a user

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interface for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device an input specifying the action to be performed by the system.

57. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 54, wherein the action is to send the message to the transmitting and receiving device.

58. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 54, wherein the processor delays the transmitter from sending the request signal until a call is in progress.

59. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 58, wherein the processor initiates a call after the user interface receives from the user an input indicating that a call should be initiated.

60. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 54, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

61. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver that receives a selective call signal comprising a message identifier identifying a message that is stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

means for retrieving from the system the message identified by the message identifier;

user interface means for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a command to perform an action on the message stored in the remote system;

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62. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 61, wherein the action is to delete the message.

63. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 61, wherein the action is to save the message.

64. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 61, wherein the action is to send the message to the transmitting and receiving device.

65. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 61, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

66. A system, comprising:  
a storage and retrieval unit that stores a message intended for a transmitting and receiving device;

means for transmitting to the transmitting and receiving device a signal comprising a message identifier that identifies the message;

means for receiving a retrieve message request signal transmitted from the transmitting and receiving device;

means for determining the priority of the message;

means for re-transmitting the signal comprising the message identifier to the transmitting and receiving device if the priority of the message is determined to be greater than or equal to a predetermined priority and the receiving means does not receive the retrieve message request signal within a predetermined amount of time from when the transmitting means first transmitted the signal.

67. The system of claim 66, further comprising means for transmitting the message to the transmitting and receiving device in response to the receiving means receiving the retrieve message request signal.

68. The system of claim 66, wherein the transmitting means transmits the signal to a base station, which then transmits the signal to the transmitting and receiving device.

69. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a selective call signal;

a transmitter for transmitting signals to the system; and

means for a user of the transmitting and receiving device to enable and disable acknowledgment signals, wherein, if acknowledgment signals are enabled, the transmitter transmits an acknowledgment signal in response to the receiver receiving the selective call signal, and, if acknowledgment signals are disabled, the transmitter does not transmit acknowledgment signals.

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acknowledgment signal to the system, and, if the user does not indicate that the receipt of the selective call signal should be acknowledged, the transmitter does not transmit an acknowledgment signal to the system.

75. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 74, wherein the selective call signal comprises a message identifier that identifies a message that is stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal.

76. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 75, wherein the user interface is further for receiving from the user an input specifying an action to be performed by the system on the message stored in the system.

77. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 76, further comprising a processor for generating a request signal in response to the user interface receiving the input from the user, the request signal indicating the action to be performed by the system and indicating the message, wherein the transmitter transmits the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal the system performs the action on the message.

78. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 74, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

79. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a selective call signal;

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a user interface for providing a user with an acknowledgment option after the receiver receives the selective call signal;

a processor programmed to generate an acknowledgment signal in response to the user activating the acknowledgment option; and

a transmitter for transmitting the acknowledgment signal to the system.

80. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 79, wherein the selective call signal comprises a message identifier that identifies a message that is stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal.

81. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 80, wherein the user interface is further for receiving from the user an input specifying an action to be performed by the system on the message stored in the system.

82. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 81, wherein the processor is programmed to generate a request signal in response to the user interface receiving the input from the user, the request signal indicating the action to be performed by the system and indicating the message, wherein the transmitter transmits the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal the system performs the action on the message.

83. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 79, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

84. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a selective call signal;

a processor programmed to generate an acknowledgment signal in response to receiving the selective call signal only if the selective call signal further comprises an acknowledgment request; and

a transmitter for transmitting the acknowledgment signal to the system.

85. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 84, wherein the selective call signal comprises a message identifier that identifies a message that is stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal.

86. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 85, further comprising a user interface for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device an input specifying an action to be performed by the system on the message stored in the system.

87. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 86, wherein the processor is programmed to generate a request signal in response to the user interface receiving the input from the user, the request signal indicating the action to be performed by the system and indicating the message, wherein the transmitter transmits the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal the system performs the action on the message.

88. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 84, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

89. A system, comprising:

a storage unit that stores a message intended for one or more transmitting and receiving devices;

means for transmitting to the one or more transmitting and receiving devices a selective call signal comprising a message identifier identifying the message and an acknowledgment request, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

means for receiving a request signal transmitted from any one of the one or more transmitting and receiving devices, wherein the request signal identifies the message and an action to be performed on the message; and

means for performing the action.

90. The system of claim 89, wherein the action is to transmit the message to the transmitting and receiving device that transmitted the request signal.

91. The system of claim 89, wherein the action is to delete the message from the storage unit.

92. The system of claim 89, wherein the action is to forward the message to a recipient specified in the request signal.

93. The system of claim 89, wherein the action is to transmit a reply message to the originator of the message, the reply message being included in the request signal.

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94. The system of claim 89, wherein the transmitting means transmits the selective call signal to a base station, which then transmits the signal to the one or more transmitting and receiving devices.

95. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

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cont. a receiver for receiving a selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

a user interface for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a command indicating that the message identifier should be sent to a specified recipient;

a processor for generating a request signal in response to the user interface means receiving the command, the request signal comprising a command identifier corresponding to the command; and

a transmitter for transmitting the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal, the system performs the command identified by the command identifier.

96. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 95, wherein the processor delays the transmitter from sending the request signal until a call is in progress.

97. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 96, wherein the processor initiates a call after the user interface receives from the user an input indicating that a call should be initiated.

98. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 95, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the

99. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a user interface for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a command indicating that the user desires to forward the message to a recipient;

a processor programmed (a) to generate a forward message request command in response to the user interface receiving the command and (b) to determine whether the message is currently stored in the system, wherein

the processor is further programmed to direct the transmitter to transmit the message and the forward message request command to the system if the processor determines that the message is not currently stored in the system, and

the processor is further programmed to direct the transmitter to transmit to the system (a) an identifier for locating the message stored in the system and (b) the forward message request command if the processor determines that the message is currently stored in the system.

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101. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 99, wherein the processor delays the transmitter from sending the request signal until a call is in progress.

102. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 101, wherein the processor initiates a call after the user interface receives from the user an input indicating that a call should be initiated.

103. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 99, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

104. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

a user interface for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device an input specifying two or more functions to be performed on the message stored in the system;

a processor for generating a request signal indicating the two or more functions to be performed; and

a transmitter for transmitting the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal, the system performs the two or more functions.

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105. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 104, wherein one of the two or more functions is to send the message to the transmitting and receiving device and another of the two or more functions is to store the message within the system.

106. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 104, wherein the processor delays the transmitter from sending the request signal until a call is in progress.

107. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 106, wherein the processor initiates a call after the user interface receives from the user an input indicating that a call should be initiated.

108. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 104, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

109. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

means for receiving a selective call signal from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, the selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in the remote system;

means for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a first input specifying a first function to be performed on the message stored in the system, wherein the first function is to transmit the message from the system to the transmitting and receiving device;

means for generating a first request signal indicating the first function;

means for transmitting the first request signal to the system, whereby, upon receiving the first request signal, the system performs the first function;

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means for receiving and storing the message transmitted from the system;

means for receiving from the user a second input specifying a second function to be performed on the message stored in the system, wherein the second function is to save the message in the system;

means for generating a second request signal indicating the second function; and

means for transmitting the second request signal to the system, whereby, upon receiving the second request signal, the system performs the second function.

110. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 109, wherein the processor delays the transmitter from sending the first request signal until a call is in progress.

111. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 110, wherein the processor initiates a call after the transmitting and receiving device receives from the user an input indicating that a call should be initiated.

112. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 109, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

113. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

means for receiving a first selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal; and

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means for receiving a second selective call signal comprising at least part of the message identifier and comprising message status information indicating a status of the message stored in the system.

114. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 113, further comprising means for displaying to a user of the transmitting and receiving device the message status information.

115. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 113, further comprising:  
a user interface for receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device an input specifying a function to be performed on the message stored in the system;  
a processor for generating a request signal indicating the function to be performed; and  
a transmitter for transmitting the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal, the system performs the function.

116. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 113, wherein the processor delays the transmitter from sending the request signal until a call is in progress.

117. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 116, wherein the processor initiates a call after the transmitting and receiving device receives from the user an input indicating that a call should be initiated.

118. The transmitting and receiving device of claim 113, wherein the selective call signal also includes an address signal, wherein the address signal is associated with only the transmitting and receiving device.

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regardless of whether acknowledgment of notification signals is disabled, the transmitter transmits to the system an acknowledgment signal in response to the receiver successfully receiving the information.

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123. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a selective call signal comprising a message identifier identifying a message that is stored in the remote system, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

retrieving the message from the system;

receiving a command to perform an action on the message stored in the remote system from a user of the transmitting and receiving device after retrieving the message from the system;

generating a request signal in response to receiving the command, the request signal comprising an action identifier corresponding to the action specified by the command; and

transmitting the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal, the system performs the action identified by the action identifier on the message stored therein.

124. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the system, comprising the steps of:

storing a message intended for the transmitting and receiving device;

transmitting to the transmitting and receiving device a signal comprising a message identifier that identifies the message;

determining the priority of the message; and

re-transmitting the signal comprising the message identifier to the transmitting and receiving device if the priority of the message is determined to be greater than or equal to a predetermined priority and a retrieve message request signal from the transmitting and receiving

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transmitting an acknowledgment signal to the system only if, in response to the query, the user indicates that the receipt of the message identifier should be acknowledged.

transmitting the acknowledgment signal to the system if the acknowledgment signal is generated.

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storing a message intended for the transmitting and receiving device;  
transmitting to the transmitting and receiving device a selective call signal comprising an acknowledgment request and a message identifier identifying the message;  
receiving a request signal transmitted from the transmitting and receiving device, wherein the request signal identifies the message and an action to be performed on the message; and  
performing the action.

128. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in the system, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a command indicating that the message identifier should be sent to a specified recipient;

generating a request signal in response to receiving the command, the request signal comprising a command identifier corresponding to the command; and

transmitting the request signal to the system, whereupon receiving the request signal, the system performs the command identified by the command identifier.

129. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in the system, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal;

receiving from the system the message identified by the message identifier;

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receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a command indicating that the user desires to forward the message to a recipient;

generating a forward message request signal in response to the user interface receiving the command;

determining whether the message is stored in the system;

including the received message in the forward message request signal only if it is determined that the message is not stored in the system;

including an identifier for locating the message stored in the system in the forward message request signal if it is determined that the message is stored in the system; and

a transmitter for transmitting the forward message request signal to the system.

130. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a selective call signal from the system, the selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in the system;

receiving from a user of the transmitting and receiving device a first input specifying a first action to be performed by the system on the message stored in the system, wherein the first action is to transmit the message to the transmitting and receiving device;

generating a first request signal indicating the first action;

transmitting the first request signal to the system, whereby, upon receiving the first request signal, the system performs the first action;

receiving and storing the message transmitted from the system;

receiving from the user a second input specifying a second action to be performed by the system on the message stored in the system, wherein the second action is to save the message in the system;

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generating a second request signal indicating the second action; and  
transmitting the second request signal to the system, whereby, upon receiving the second request signal, the system performs the second action.

131. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a first selective call signal comprising a message identifier that identifies a message stored in the system, wherein the message is not included in the selective call signal; and

receiving a second selective call signal comprising at least part of the message identifier and message status information indicating a status of the message stored in the system.

132. In a communications network comprising a transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a system remote from the transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

providing a user of the transmitting and receiving device with the ability to disable acknowledgment of notification signals, wherein a notification signal is a signal notifying the user that information intended for the transmitting and receiving device is stored in the system and available to be retrieved by the transmitting and receiving device;

receiving from the system a notification signal having an information identifier that identifies information that is stored in the system;

generating an acknowledgment signal in response to the receiver receiving the notification signal if acknowledgment of notification signals has not been disabled;

transmitting the acknowledgment signal to the system after it is generated;

receiving from the system the information identified by the information identifier; and

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transmitting to the system an acknowledgment signal in response to the receiver successfully receiving the information from the system regardless of whether acknowledgment of notification signals is disabled.

133. In a communication system comprising a first system, a second system, a base station, and a transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the first system, comprising the steps of:

receiving a data transmission from the second system, the data transmission including a system identifier that is associated with the second system and message information that identifies a message stored in the second system that is intended for a user of the transmitting and receiving device;

generating a page;

including the system identifier and the message information in the page; and

providing the page to the base station for transmission to the transmitting and receiving device.

134. In a communication system comprising a first system, a second system, a base station, and a transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the second system, comprising the steps of:

receiving a message intended for a user of the transmitting and receiving device;

storing the message;

transmitting information regarding the message to the first system, the information including a system identifier that is associated with the second system and message information that identifies the message;

receiving a request signal from the user, the request signal comprising an action identifier identifying an action to be performed on the message; and

performing the action.

135. In a communication system comprising a plurality of systems, a base station, and a transmitting and receiving device, a method performed by the transmitting and receiving device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a page transmitted from the base station, the page comprising (a) a system identifier identifying a particular one of the plurality of systems and (b) message information identifying a message that is stored in said particular one of the plurality of systems and that is intended for a user of the transmitting and receiving device;

informing the user that the page has been received;

receiving input from the user specifying an action to be performed on the message; and

transmitting, to the system identified by the system identifier, an action identifier corresponding to the action specified by the user.

136. A transmitting and receiving device for transmitting data to and receiving data from a communication system, comprising:

a receiver (a) for receiving a selective call signal having an information identifier signal identifying information stored in a system, the information not being included in the selective call signal, and (b) for receiving the identified information;

a processor for generating a first alert signal after the receiver receives the information identifier signal and for generating a second alert signal after the receiver receives the identified information; and

a user interface (a) for generating, in response to the processor generating the first alert signal, a first alert to inform a user of the transmitting and receiving device that the information identifier signal has been received, and (b) for generating, in response to the processor generating

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